

\$500 in order to assist to that extent the financial condition of the Society, performed an altruistic act worthy of the highest commendation;

Resolved, That the Alameda County Medical Society begs to express to Dr. Jones its appreciation of his disinterested action, and congratulates the Society on having a Secretary with so high an ideal of his relations to his fellow-members.

M. L. EMERSON, Secretary.

PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY SURGEONS.

The regular annual meeting of the Pacific Association of Railway Surgeons will take place on August 27th and 28th at the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco.

On the 27th there will be a morning session from 10 a. m. to 12 m., followed by a luncheon, also an afternoon session.

On the 28th, the morning will be spent at various hospitals, where clinical cases will be demonstrated; also an afternoon session, followed by a banquet in the evening. The new Southern Pacific railroad hospital will be fully completed by this time.

The luncheon and banquet will be served by the Association without cost to the members.

The Association has made rapid strides during the last year, about thirty applications for membership having been received. We expect to have a very interesting scientific program; the social feature will, however, not be overlooked. All proceedings will be published in the California State Journal as heretofore.

I write you this letter particularly requesting that, if you have anything that would be of interest to the society as a demonstration of a case or reading of a paper, you will kindly inform me not later than July 1st, so that we may arrange our preliminary program.

PROGRAM TO DATE, JULY 14, 1909.

1. "Gun Shot Wound of the Heart with Recovery," C. J. Teass, Kennet, Cal.
2. "Fractures of the Humerus Through the Musculo-spiral Groove, Treatment," Rexwald Brown, Santa Barbara, Cal.
3. "The Essentials of Surgical Diagnosis with Special Reference to Traumatic Conditions," T. W. Huntington, San Francisco.
4. "Cavity Formation in the Spinal Cord Due to Trauma," E. T. Dillon, Los Angeles.
5. "The Problem Presented by the Tuberculosis Railway Employee," R. A. Peers, Colfax, Cal.
6. "Abdominal Injuries, with Reference to Early Diagnosis and Treatment," R. T. Legge, McCloud, Cal.
7. "Importance of Enucleation of Tonsil in its Bearing on General Infections," Redmond Payne, San Francisco.
8. Presentation of cases, Wallace I. Terry, San Francisco.
9. "X-Ray," Charles M. Cooper, San Francisco.
10. "Surgical Shock" (possibly), David Powell, Marysville, Cal.
11. Several interesting cases (possibly), A. M. Henderson, Sacramento, Cal.

Very truly yours,

GEO. R. CARSON,

Secretary.

ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC EXPOSITION.

California State Journal of Medicine,
Gentlemen:

The A. Y. P. Exposition will open June 1st, closing Oct. 16th. No doubt many of your subscribers will pay the exposition and the Pacific Northwest a visit.

We have a modern equipped Emergency Hospital, and have set aside a room for visiting physicians,

where they may receive their mail, write letters, etc. Will you kindly announce to your subscribers that any physician visiting the exposition may have his mail sent in care of the Emergency Hospital at the A. Y. P.?

We would appreciate it very much, if you would send us a copy, or two, of your magazine, to have on the center-table for the use of visiting physicians.

Respectfully,

E. M. RININGER.

MEDICAL FAKIRS.

There is a disposition among the medical men of the State of Illinois to make it more difficult for young men to enter the profession. They contend that the tone has suffered because of lax graduation laws and because of indifference on the part of physicians to the need of restrictive provisions by which only properly-trained men may become practitioners. Half-educated, half-witted, in some cases "illiterate clowns," put out their shingles by the side of men who spent years in preparation and who are really qualified in the highest sense for practice. Thus the profession is crowded, reduced in standing, and in some communities disgraced, all because of the ease with which these "duffers" work their way into the ranks of good men.

A little while ago, at a banquet of medical men in California, the writer heard a speaker discuss the uses of the microscope. He had none himself, he said, and it was well he hadn't, "for if I had I would simply play h— using it." He added that many who did have them used them for "show," and knew little more about them than he did. There was probably a lot of truth in the statement of this country physician, who might have said too that if the physicians who could not write an intelligent prescription were weeded out there would be little complaint of overcrowding in California. For here, as in Illinois, the "correspondence" graduate is about as numerous and pretentious a creature as we have in the State. He puts a gilt frame about an elaborate credential, hangs it upon his office wall, looks into the faces of his victims with an air of wisdom which Plato might envy, feels the pulse, dashes off a stereotyped prescription, and with a smile of assurance tells the patient, whose trouble is probably in his head, that he will be well in the morning.

The medical profession, "the first estate," should have in it men of culture and training, of good manners and address. Their very appearance in public places should command respect, not derision, as is too often the case. The interloper should be driven out or kept out by qualifying examinations which he cannot pass. In some countries he is obliged to obtain his Arts Degree before he is considered capable of grasping the problems of therapeutics. And when he has passed his last examination he is put through another and more difficult test by a Board known as a Medical Council, which finally determines his fitness for active practice. A profession as honorable and as useful should not be permitted to degenerate into "fakery" simply because of the laxity of the very men whose interest it is to see that unscrupulous ill-trained men are kept out.—San Jose Mercury.

A FEW KIND WORDS.

June 3, 1909.

California State Journal of Medicine;

Gentlemen:

I am writing this to offer you my congratulations on your good work to rid the medical profession of incompetency and commercialism.

The Journal of the American Medical Association and the Cal. State Journal of Medicine are doing more for the cause of honesty and to dislodge the grasp of the nostrum vendors from the profession